

F-6-95
Blue Mountain House
Thurmont
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery Counties,
and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930 A.D.
Modern

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Type:
Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence
Domestic/secondary structure/garage

Known Design Source: None

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Ca. 1940

Blue Mountain House

Thurmont vicinity

Private

The Blue Mountain House represents the type of building seen in Blue Mountain, a small community located at Blue Mountain Road and Catoclin Furnace Road. It is a small dwelling house with elements of the bungalow and cottage influences. A concentration of approximately twenty buildings similar to the Blue Mountain House evolved in the early twentieth century into the mid-twentieth century. These buildings may be connected to middle-class vacation or retirement housing of that period with modest scales based on vernacular designs.

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. F-6-95

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Blue Mountain House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 7021 Blue Mountain Road ___ not for publication

city, town Thurmont ___X vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	___X occupied	___ agriculture
___X building(s)	___X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment
___ object	___ in process	___X yes: restricted	___ government
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial
	___X not applicable	___ no	___ military
			___ museum
			___ park
			___X private residence
			___ religious
			___ scientific
			___ transportation
			___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name David E. & Alma M. Gernand

street & number 7021 Blue Mountain Road telephone no.:

city, town Thurmont state and zip code MD 21788

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 894

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 633

city, town Frederick state MD 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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Condition

☐ excellent

☐ good

☒ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

(Typed on separate sheet)

8. Significance

Survey No. F-6-95

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

(Typed on separate sheet)

Survey No. F-6-95

Williams, T.J.C. History of Frederick County, Maryland, L.R. Titsworth Co., 1910.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

H | | | | | | | | | |

7.1 Description:

A small community dating from the early twentieth century is clustered around the intersection of Blue Mountain Road and Catoctin Furnace Road. This intersection is located equidistant from Thurmont and Catoctin Furnace in the Catoctin Mountains. The community includes approximately twenty small dwelling houses with the majority being bungalows and cottages. They are situated on the south and north sides of Blue Mountain Road and on the east side of Catoctin Furnace Road. The focal point of the community is a commercial building (circa 1930) located at the corner of the two roads.

The buildings range in size from one to one & one-half stories with an average width of three bays. Most of the buildings are of frame construction, sided with various materials including stucco, aluminum siding, german siding, and brick veneer. They are similar to one another in form and plan; some are identical.

One building that exemplifies the Blue Mountain community is located at 7021 Blue Mountain Road, facing north. Built circa 1940, this one story frame building is sheathed in vinyl siding and rests on a concrete foundation. The gable roof of composition shingling runs east to west. There is a exterior concrete chimney on the west gable end. A one story garage is located to the south of the house.

The main (north) elevation has three bays with a center door. Windows are 1/1. A full facade porch is integrated into the roofline and has square columns. The south elevation has a vinyl-sided, enclosed porch with a shed roof that covers the facade. The west gable end has three 1/1 window openings. The east gable end has two 1/1 windows and one 1/1 attic window.

The garage is sheathed in asphalt shingling. The tar-papered roofline is partly gable and partly flat. The main facade, facing north, shows two sections: a gable-front section with a 2/2 window and a door opening and a garage section with a door opening.

This house is typical of the other dwellings in the community. Like the other buildings, it shows elements of the bungalow influence particularly with the integrated front porch. It has experienced alterations such as siding and window replacements seen throughout the community. Its fair to average condition is also representative of the other buildings in Blue Mountain.

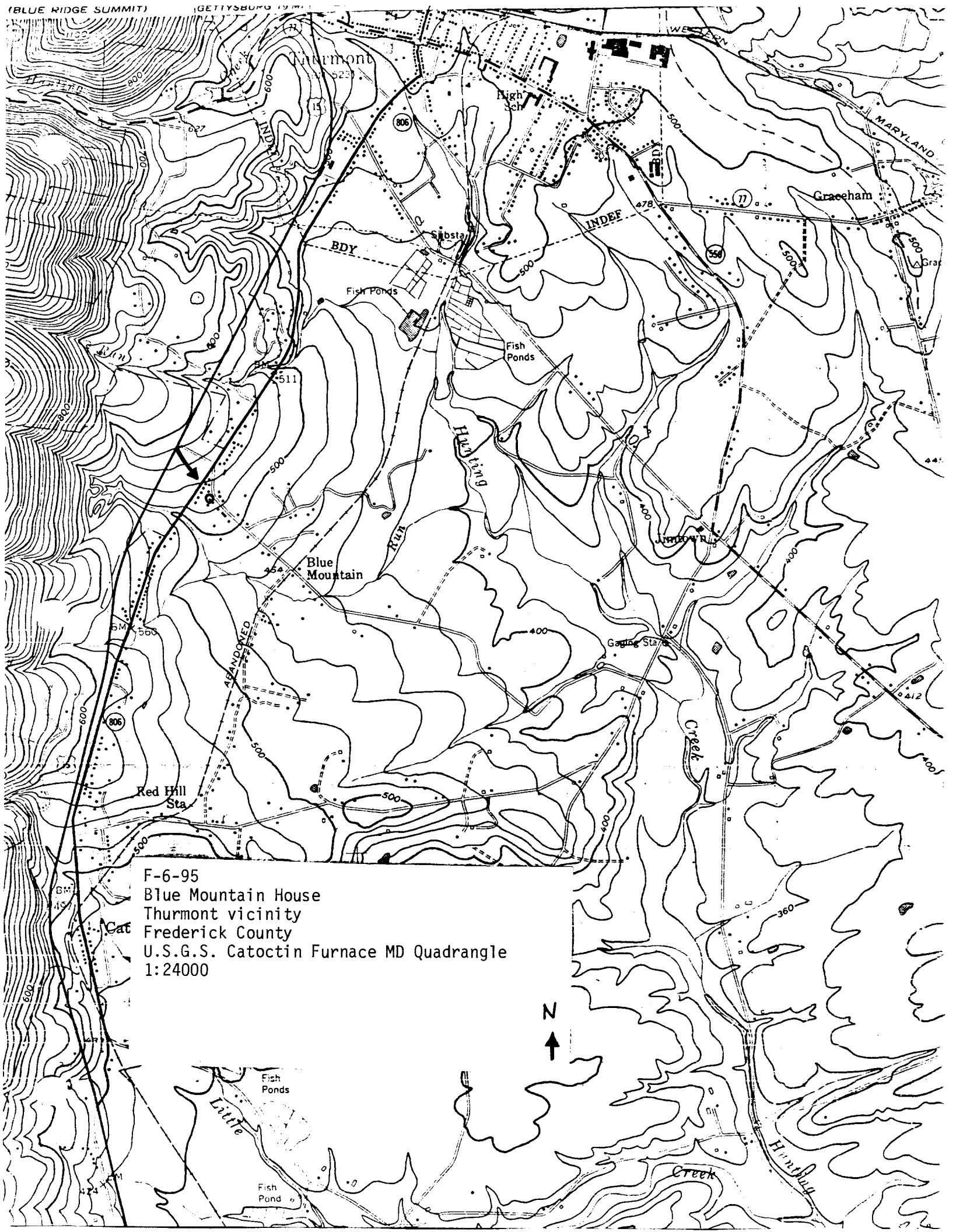
8.1 Significance:

The Blue Mountain House represents the type of building seen in Blue Mountain, a small community located at Blue Mountain Road and Catoctin Furnace Road. It is a small dwelling house with elements of the bungalow and cottage influences. A concentration of approximately twenty buildings similar to the Blue Mountain House evolved in the early twentieth century into the mid-twentieth century. These buildings may be connected to middle-class vacation or retirement housing of that period with modest scales based on vernacular designs.

Compared to the other buildings within the Blue Mountain community, this house has a typical level of integrity and demonstrates the average condition. Other housing communities similar to Blue Mountain are evident in the towns of Thurmont and Emmitsburg as twentieth century subdivisions.

The community at Blue Mountain developed in the early twentieth century largely because of its location on a major thoroughfare, Catoctin Furnace Road. A commercial building (circa 1930) at the corner of the two intersecting roads indicates the focal point of the community. Its development may have also been influenced by the railroad line that ran from Catoctin Furnace to Thurmont beginning in the late nineteenth century; there was probably a station at Blue Mountain. (The abandoned tracks form the eastern boundary of the present community.)

Mountain vacation homes and retirement communities had become popular by the twentieth century. A community like Blue Mountain provided an affordable opportunity for those with a desire for a retirement or vacation house on a limited income. Buildings in the community were small and inexpensively built and were based on bungalow and cottage designs.



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Blue Mountain House
Thurmont vicinity
Frederick County
U.S.G.S. Catoctin Furnace MD Quadrangle
1:24000



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7021 Blue Mountain Road

Thurmont vicinity

Fredenck County

Photo: MARY K SHIPE

JUNE 1991

Neg. Loc: MHT

Natn elevation

Y/1